



Russell R. McMurry, P.E., Commissioner
One Georgia Center
600 West Peachtree NW
Atlanta, GA 30308
(404) 631-1990 Main Office

January 15, 2019

Thank you for attending the Public Information Open House for the proposed replacement of the Shallowford Bridge Road bridge over the Toccoa River project, PI Number 0014167. Our goal is two-fold: (1) to provide you with information on the proposed project; and (2) to provide an opportunity for you to give us your comments on the proposed project. In this handout package, you will find a description of the project, a location map, and a comment card.

As you enter the room, please take a look at the project display. Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) representatives, wearing nametags, are available to discuss the project and answer your questions. There will be no formal presentation.

We hope you will take the opportunity to tell the GDOT representatives what you think about the proposed project. Listed below are several ways to comment on the project. Your comments are important to us, and should you provide comments by one of the methods noted below, we will respond to you in writing, usually within 30 days of the close of the comment period. All comments will become part of the project's official record.

While you are attending the open house, you can provide your comments today by filling out the comment card provided with this handout and dropping it in the comment box, or you may choose to provide your verbal comments to the court reporter who will transcribe your comments. You can also provide your comments by January 25, 2019, by using any of the following methods:

- Online at www.dot.ga.gov/PS/Public/PublicOutreach.
 1. From the menu, select the county in which the proposed project is located and click Go;
 2. Then select *CR 38-Shallowford Bridge Road Bridge Replacement*;
 3. Lastly, click *Comment* and follow the instructions to leave your comments.
- Mail in your comment card to Mr. Eric Duff, Georgia Department of Transportation, 600 West Peachtree Street NW, 16th Floor, Atlanta, Georgia 30308.

The project displays and plans will be available for review for ten days after this open house (i.e., through January 29th) at the website noted above. Hard copies will also be available at the Fannin County Commissioner's Office, located in the Fannin County Courthouse at 400 W Main St #102, Blue Ridge, GA 30513; the GDOT Area 2 Office at 1269 Kennestone Circle, Marietta, GA 30066; and the GDOT District 6 Office at 500 Joe Frank Harris Parkway, Cartersville, GA 30120.

Following the ten-day public comment period, a copy of all comments received will be available by request at the Atlanta address listed above.

Again, thank you for attending this open house. If you should have any questions or need additional information, feel free to contact the project manager, Jeff Henry, at (404) 663-8649 or the environmental analyst, Jordan Allen, NEPA planner at (404) 631-1118 of the Office of Environmental Services.

Sincerely,

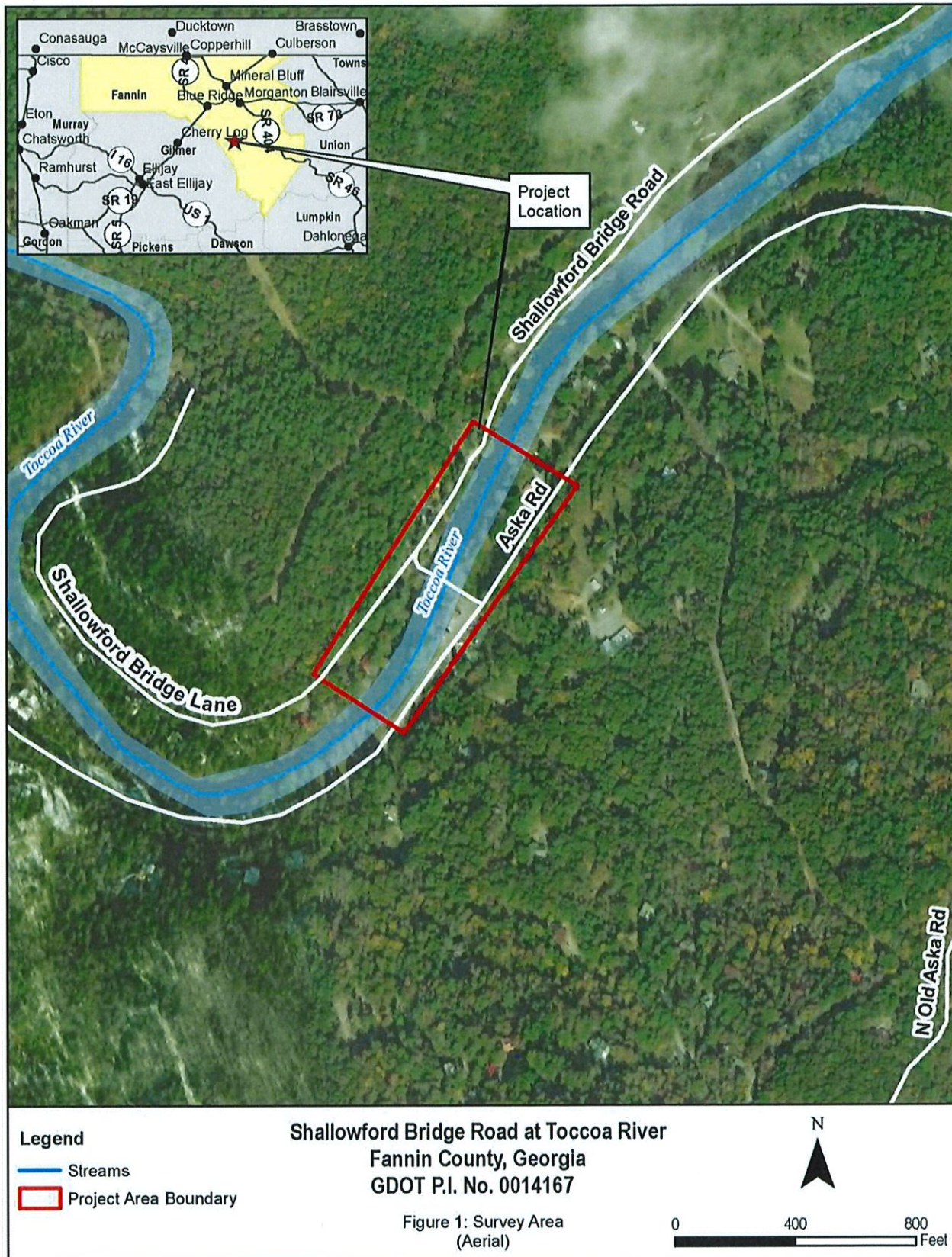
A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eric Duff /RP".

Eric Duff
State Environmental Administrator
Georgia Department of Transportation

Why We Are Here: The existing bridge (Structure ID 111-5007-0) was built in 1918, and the bridge consists of one main steel truss span with two (2) approach spans of steel girders. The two approach spans rest on vertical concrete walls with spread footings. The bridge was designed using an unknown design load and is currently posted for weight restrictions. The structure is classified as fracture critical, and the overall condition of this bridge would be classified as poor. The deck is in good condition, while the superstructure is in poor condition with major corrosion and areas of up to 100 percent section loss. The substructure is in fair condition with moderate cracking in the vertical walls and moderate abrasion at the waterline. This bridge is classified as having an unknown foundation, and therefore could be at risk of scour. Due to the weight restrictions of the structure, the fracture critical classification, and the unknown foundation of the substructure, replacement of this 100-year-old bridge is recommended. The existing structure will be left in place and closed to traffic following completion of the project.

Project Description: The proposed project would replace the existing steel truss bridge on CR 38 over the Toccoa River. The existing bridge is approximately 11.4 feet wide and carries a single travel lane. The replacement structure would be constructed approximately 175 feet south (downstream) of the existing bridge. The Benton MacKaye Trail crosses the existing bridge and would be relocated to the new bridge structure. The typical section of the replacement bridge consists of two 9-foot travel lanes with a 2-foot wide shoulder on the left side and a 11.5-foot wide shoulder on the north side that includes a 10-foot wide sidewalk. The total project length is approximately 0.19 mile.

Project Location Map:



Comment Card

Please print responses.

Name _____

Address _____

Do you support the project? (check your response)

☐ **For**

☐ **Against**

☐ **Conditional**

☐ **Uncommitted**

General Comments _____

How did you hear about this Open House? (check) ☐ **Newspaper** ☐ **Signs** ☐ **GDOT Website** ☐ **Radio**

☐ **Word of Mouth** ☐ **Social Media** ☐ **Other** _____

Was the location of the Open House convenient for you to attend?

☐ **Yes**

☐ **No**

If no, please suggest a general location that is more convenient to your community.

Was the time of the meeting convenient for you to attend?

☐ **Yes**

☐ **No**

If no, please suggest a time frame that is more convenient for you.

Were your questions answered by GDOT personnel?

☐ **Yes**

☐ **No**

Do you understand the project after attending this meeting?

☐ **Yes**

☐ **No**

Please share your suggestions on improving the ways GDOT conducts Open Houses:

Mail to:

Mr. Eric Duff, State Environmental Administrator
Georgia Department of Transportation
600 West Peachtree Street, NW – 16th Floor
Atlanta, Georgia 30308